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The European Earwig Found in Provo, Utah

In August of this year an insect, that was said to be a pest in the flower garden, was brought to me by Mr. Robert Curtis. He wanted to know what kind of insect it was and how it could be controlled. Upon examination of the specimens they were found to be *Forficula auricularia* Linn., the European Earwig, a new record for this area.

This species is dark brown in color, 10-15 mm. long, body flattened, winged and with well developed forceps, at the posterior end of the body. The females hibernate by going down into the soil 8 to 10 inches. They come out in the spring, usually some time in April, depending upon the temperature. The female lays her pearly-white eggs, in small masses, in the moist soil or under debris. There is only one generation each year.

This cosmopolitan species has spread throughout the United States and is a serious pest in some areas. It can be controlled with a poison bait or contact spray. Dry white bread and lead arsenate, 16 pounds to one, mixed with a little water is recommended as an effective bait. The reader may get additional information concerning this species from the U. S. D. A. Bull. No 566 by D. W. Jones.

The following species of Earwigs are now known to occur in Utah:

Family Spongiphoridae

Spongostox apicedentatus (Caud.), St. George, Utah, a tropical, semi-tropical species.

Family Labiidae

Labia minor (Linn.), Provo, cosmopolitan in distribution.

Family Forficulidae

Forficula auricularia Linn., Salt Lake City and Provo, cosmopolitan in distribution.—V. M. T.